

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A program length extending or shortening device for extending or shortening the program length in a digital video tape recorder of the image information compression recording method. The device comprises storage means for storing an image of a material video program reproduced and supplied from a predetermined recording medium by a reproducing device, and extending or shortening control means for extending or shortening the program length of the material video program to produce a target video program by skipping or reading duplicitely the image of the material video program from the storage means in accordance with a program length extending or shortening ratio  $N$  based on the program lengths of the material video program and the target video program. According to the present invention, the program length can be freely extended or shortened using storage means of a small capacity while the recording device is being operated at a normal rate.